

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 8, with the following amended paragraph:

At step 440, the remaining pixels are iteratively placed in the sub-group. In one embodiment, the pixels are placed starting from the lower left of the sub-group to the and ending at the upper right of the sub-group. In one embodiment, if pixels at positions  $(i-1, j)$  and  $(i, j-1)$  are already placed, the pixel at position  $(i, j)$  is determined according to Equation 4: